

COUNTRY East GermanyREPORT NO. TOPIC Military Information from Leipzig

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 12 January to 5 February 195325X1X
DATE OBTAINED PREPARED 9 March 1953

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REFERENCES PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

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SOURCE

1. On 5 February, the barracks installation on the southeast side of Torgauer Strasse in Leipzig-Heiterblick quartered about 1,200 troops. Sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets. Almost all quarters were lighted at nightfall. On 28 January, about 200 soldiers practiced with small arms at group level in the installation. At about 9 a.m., about 70 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, some with tank insignia, and carrying small arms, spades and gas masks moved from the barracks installation toward the troop training grounds. A T-34/85 tank practiced driving at the training grounds. On 3 February, three T-34/85 tanks practiced driving while about 150 to 200 received field training, on the training grounds. A convoy of 15 trucks, some of them occupied by 4 to 6 men, returned to the barracks installation from the direction of Taucha.

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2. On 5 February, the Flak Kaserne on Highway No 87, 1 km southeast of Schoenau, quartered 1,700 to 2,000 troops. Sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets. All quarters were lighted at dusk. Officers with tank insignia were frequently noticed from 28 January to 5 February. On 29 January, about 150 to 200 troops engaged in field training on the troop training grounds east of the installation. On 4 February, about 200 to 250 soldiers were at group training in the barracks installation, while several groups of other soldiers, equipped with pikes and spades, engaged in entrenching work and 16 soldiers practiced gun drill with two field guns.

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3. On 17 January, the barracks installation in Leipzig-Heiterblick was occupied by 800 to 1,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank and motor transport insignia. On 20 January, the quarters were 80 percent lighted. About 40 to 50 men with 10 trucks practiced driving, which included training trips to Taucha, on 27, 29 and 30 January.

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4. On 30 January, the Flak Kaserne in Leipzig-Schoenau was occupied to capacity by 1,000 to 1,200 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. On 12 January, 50 soldiers practiced firing with blank cartridges in the barracks yard, while about 80 soldiers practiced attacking and aiming with rifles and light

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machine guns in the terrain outside the billeting area. On 14 January, jeep [] towing a 85-mm AT gun and jeep 2-00-45 drove out of the installation. Two trucks, two 132-mm rocket launchers and about 20 soldiers were seen behind the second entrance. On 21 January, about 20 soldiers left the barracks installation for firing practice, while about 35 soldiers engaged in field training in the vicinity of the installation. At about 6:15 p.m. on 23 January, a truck towing an AA gun drove along the road toward Leipzig and, on 28 January, [] occupied by 15 soldiers and towing a 85-mm AT gun drove toward the barracks installation. A local resident told source that during the night of 28 January, 10 rocket launchers including 8 x 132-mm caliber were unloaded and subsequently marched to the barracks installation.¹ []

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5. On 29 January, the Hindenburg Kaserne on the north side of Danziger Strasse and west of Franz Mehring Strasse was occupied by 600 to 700 troops who wore black-bordered blue epaulets, red-bordered black epaulets or black-bordered crimson epaulets. Almost all quarters were lighted at nightfall. Between 4 and 6 p.m. on 9 and 15 January, singing, and the shouting of orders was heard from the barracks yard. On 28 January, 15 soldiers engaged in callisthenics. No other training activity was noticed. []

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6. On 4 February, the Flak Kaserne in Leipzig-Heiterblick quartered about 600 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including about 50 percent with tank insignia. All quarters were lighted at nightfall. Two tanks were seen in the terrain on 22 January, and 1 BA-64 armored scout car and 3 personnel carriers occupied by 10 men each leaving the installation on 23 January. At about 12:30 p.m. on 22 January, five motorcycles with sidecars entered the installation and parked near one of the garages. Twenty soldiers engaged in field training at the east side of the installation on 16 January, while 20 soldiers drilled in the barracks yard and 40 other soldiers with rifles and light baggage entered the installation, coming from the terrain, on 19 January. About 125 soldiers marched from the installation toward the town between 10 and 11:30 a.m. on 4 February. []

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7. On 3 February, the Hindenburg Kaserne was occupied by about 150 soldiers who wore black-bordered blue epaulets and some uniformed women who wore black-bordered blue epaulets. The installation was about 30 percent lighted in the evening. About 100 soldiers were seen through the windows of the mess hall on the ground floor of the southern administrative building on 26 January. The artillery piece that moved out of the installation on 2 December 1952 was a SU-76 gun.
8. On 3 February, the Treitke'sche Kaserne on the east side of Olbricht Strasse, south of Danziger Strasse and west of Witzleben Strasse, quartered a unit whose personnel wore black-bordered crimson epaulets and included uniformed women who also wore black-bordered crimson epaulets. The southern section of the installation housed troops that maintained a dog kennel. On 2 February, about 40 soldiers with fixed bayonets, carrying two machine guns and targets marched into the installation. Source believed that they came from firing

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practice at Rosental. About 20 soldiers, whom source believed were recruits, with two machine guns and targets, left the installation and went toward Fritz-Reuter Strasse and Wiederitzscher Strasse. [REDACTED]

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9. On 26 January, a sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets was noticed in the Train Kaserne on the west side of Olbricht Strasse, south of the ration supply depot. Troops fell in in the barracks yard on 30 January.²

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. It is possible that elements of the 94th RL Regt (US) of the XXIX Gds Mtz Rifle Corps conducted short-term firing practice at combat level on the Ohrdruf or Lossa troop training grounds and returned to their posts on 28 January.

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. Compared with the last report by the same sources, the present observations indicate no changes in the occupation of the military quarters in Leipzig. [REDACTED]

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